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ABSTRACT

This book contains the findings of a British project studying the employment experiences of a sample of Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA) graduates for the year 1982. Chapters One and Two describe the project and the context for the project. Chapter Three presents an overview of the employment experiences of the sample from graduation in 1982 to late autumn 1985. Chapter Four describes types of graduates defined in terms of the relationship of their degrees to the labor market. Chapter Five uses this model to look at the links between degree courses and employment. Chapter Six presents data about the characteristics of some of the more popular fields of employment of CNAA graduates. Chapter Seven looks at different forms of postgraduate study. In Chapter Eight the authors consider the nature of the transition from higher education to employment for graduates from different kinds of courses. Chapter Nine looks briefly at the effect of gender, age, social class, and ethnicity. Chapter Ten considers the graduates' own perceptions of the general function and benefits of higher education. Chapter Eleven summarizes the main findings of the report and suggests some tentative conclusions and implications. Institutions are encouraged to regularly investigate the experiences of their graduates in relation to the objectives of their courses. The book contains a 19 item bibliography, many tables and figures illustrating the text, three appendixes of statistical data and a list of working papers. (JB)

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